

Reviewing Major Topics in U.S. History from 1940 – 1963 with Political Cartoons


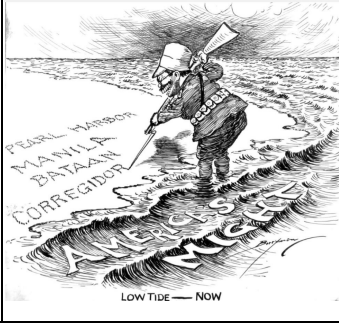

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Graphic Organizer 1:

Issue 1: World War II — America Joins a Global Conflict, 1940 – 1945

Instructions: Match the political cartoon with the appropriate description. Match each caption card with the cartoon it best matches. Explain how the cartoon matches the caption.

After World War I, Americans hoped they would never again see such large-scale war. At first, the U.S. tried to stay out of World War II, but when imperialist Japan attacked the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in 1941, the U.S. joined the Allies in what had become a war of two fronts: one in Europe and one in the Pacific. By its end in 1945, World War II had cost over a hundred million lives. In the wake of this deadliest war of all time, Americans increasingly favored international cooperation.

Cartoon			
Summary of Description			
Caption			
How does this cartoon match the caption?			

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Graphic Organizer 2:

Issue 2: World War II — Life in the U.S. 1940 – 1945

Instructions: Match the political cartoon with the appropriate description. Match each caption card with the cartoon it best matches. Explain how the cartoon matches the caption.

World War II was a total war. In addition to the sacrifices of those in the military, the war required the contribution of the civilian population and the reorientation of industry. As a result, daily life in America changed. Industry produced materials needed for war instead of consumer products, so certain goods were in short supply. Other goods were rationed because they were needed at the front. All Americans were called on to pay higher taxes and invest in war bonds.

Cartoon			
Summary of Description			
Caption			
How does this cartoon match the caption?			

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Graphic Organizer 3:

Issue 3: Post War Issues — New Challenges at Home and Abroad, 1945 – 1948

Instructions: Match the political cartoon with the appropriate description. Match each caption card with the cartoon it best matches. Explain how the cartoon matches the caption.

The end of World War II was cause for celebration, but it also brought new challenges. These included rebuilding and reorganizing a devastated Europe, reckoning with the aftermath of the Holocaust, adjusting to the reality of a world with nuclear weapons, creating an international organization capable of preventing future global war, and responding to communism. Closer to home, Americans enjoyed the greater availability of consumer goods but struggled with rising prices. Nevertheless, spared the wartime destruction that set back so many other countries, the U.S. settled into a period of steady economic growth.

Cartoon			
Summary of Description			
Caption			
How does this cartoon match the caption?			

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Graphic Organizer 4:

Issue 4: The Cold War— An Era of Rising Tensions, 1948 – 1955

Instructions: Match the political cartoon with the appropriate description. Match each caption card with the cartoon it best matches. Explain how the cartoon matches the caption.

Two global superpowers emerged after World War II: the capitalist U.S. and the communist U.S.S.R. The two former allies were increasingly at odds after the war. The Soviets immediately exerted control over Eastern Europe, while communist regimes also contended for dominance elsewhere (most notably in China, which fell to communism in 1949). The U.S. adopted an official policy of containment, which aimed to halt the spread of communism. The ongoing rivalry between the U.S. and the Soviets was dubbed a Cold War because the two countries never fought each other directly.

Cartoon			
Summary of Description			
Caption			
How does this cartoon match the caption?			

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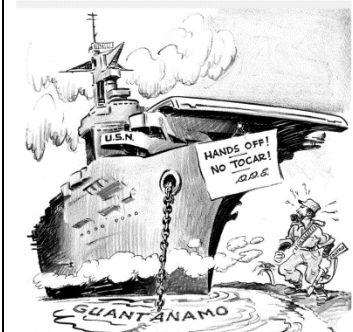
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Graphic Organizer 5:

Issue 5: The Cold War — An Era of Standoffs, 1956 – 1963

Instructions: Match the political cartoon with the appropriate description. Match each caption card with the cartoon it best matches. Explain how the cartoon matches the caption.

By the mid-1950s, the conflict between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. over the postwar reorganization of Europe had expanded into a global struggle for influence. Countries around the world gradually lined up behind one superpower or the other. This global standoff posed many questions: Would newly independent countries in Africa and Asia be friendly to the U.S. or the Soviets? Which Chinese government should the United Nations recognize—the communist one, or the non-communist one? In 1961-1962, the Cuban Missile Crisis the Soviet-American rivalry reached a dangerous level of intensity.

Cartoon			
Summary of Description			
Caption			
How does this cartoon match the caption?			

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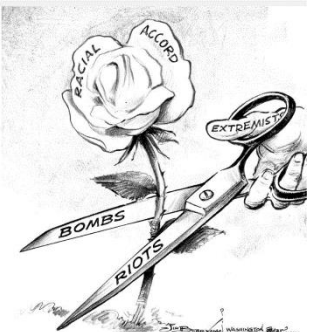
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Graphic Organizer 6:

Issue 6: Civil Rights — Confrontations Over Equality, 1956 –1963

Instructions: Match the political cartoon with the appropriate description. Match each caption card with the cartoon it best matches. Explain how the cartoon matches the caption.

In its 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, the U.S. Supreme Court declared racial segregation in schools unconstitutional. Across the South, however, segregationists resisted integration, adopting strategies of delay, intimidation, and violence. The civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s sought to end segregation and all forms of racial discrimination. Peaceful protests like the Montgomery bus boycott and the Greensboro sit-ins and the March on Washington won support for the cause. Congress eventually passed protective legislation, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed racial segregation and discrimination.

Cartoon			
Summary of Description			
Caption			
How does this cartoon match the caption?			

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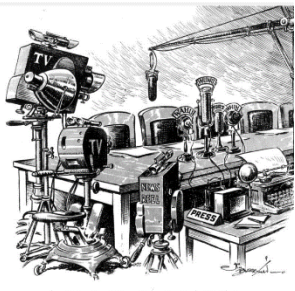


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Graphic Organizers 7:

Issue 7: SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY TRANSFORM AMERICA, 1949 – 1963

Instructions: Match the political cartoon with the appropriate description. Match each caption card with the cartoon it best matches. Explain how the cartoon matches the caption.

The post-World War II decades brought major technological and scientific advances. Some innovations were clear wins. The development of a polio vaccine, for example, led quickly to almost complete elimination of the disease. Many innovations, however, brought mixed or uncertain results. TV ownership expanded dramatically by the early 1960s, transforming how Americans entertained and informed themselves. TV was bound to impact social and political life as well. Meanwhile, the U.S. and U.S.S.R. raced to explore space, capturing the imagination of earthlings everywhere. But space technology could be used for military ends, producing new possibilities and new perils.

Cartoon	 <small>All Set For A Super-Secret Session In Washington 1950 Pulitzer Prize Cartoon By Jia Benveniste The Washington Post</small>	 <small>UNDERGROUND A-TEST</small>	 <small>U.S. FIRST WITH REAL OUTER SPACE ROCKET! RUSSIA FIRST WITH EARTH SATELLITE BRITAIN FIRST WITH JET AIRLINE SERVICE!</small>
Summary of Description			
Caption			
How does this cartoon match the caption?			